

## Do I Really Matter?

by House to House Heart to Heart, Allen Webster

Would you give the life of one of your children for the most valuable thing in your house? “Absolutely not!” you say. Before you say that, though, let me tell you the story of Henry Lauder (1870–1950). Lauder was an international Scottish entertainer during the World War II era, described by Sir Winston Churchill as “Scotland’s greatest ever ambassador.” Quite successful, he made 22 trips to America, for which he had his own train, the Harry Lauder Special. During the war, he led successful fundraising efforts for war charities, organized a tour of music halls to help recruit men, and entertained the troops under enemy fire in France. He suffered personal tragedy during the war, when his only son, John (1891–1916), a captain in the 8th Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, was killed in action on 28 December 1916 at Poiziers.

After the war, the world-class comedian was near a nervous breakdown. His doctor recommended he get away from everything that reminded him of his son, so he rented a house on the seashore, where he walked along the beach day by day. He spent his time reading, meditating, and relaxing. Among the new friends he made was a small boy who lived next door and sometimes joined Henry for evening walks along the beach. One night as they walked along listening to the waves, enjoying the scenery, and watching the sun go down, the boy noticed that there were small flags hanging in the windows of some houses. Some flags had stars hanging from them.

The boy asked Lauder what the flags meant. He replied, “Every home with a flag means that that family sent a son to war.”

“But,” the boy replied, “some stars are silver and some are gold. What does that mean?”

Lauder did not say anything for a long time, but finally replied, “A silver star means that the boy came home safely; a gold star means that the boy died in combat.”

They walked a little farther in silence and night came upon them. The boy looked up at the first evening star, saying excitedly, “Look. There is a star in God’s sky and it is a gold star! Does it mean that God sent His Son to war?”

Lauder stood for a moment. Then with a catch in his voice, he said, “Yes, son. It means that God sent His Son into war—the greatest war that has ever been fought. And yes, the star is gold because God’s Son died in that combat.”

# Prayers and Concerns

- ◆ D. E.’s cornea transplant surgery went well, but continue to pray for his healing and return of his vision.
- ◆ Pray for our nation to be free from hate and divisiveness. Charlie Kirk was assassinated for voicing his opinions—opinions such as abortion is wrong, there is only male and female genders, that people should marry and have children, that patriotism is good, the Bible is true, and Jesus Christ is our Savior. May we all be so bold.
- ◆ Remember those with health issues—D. E. Pleasant, Dorlene and Larry Butler, Aleta Collins, Vernon James, Mary Morrison, Ruth Strain, Steve and Diane Siebels, Bob Robbins.
- ◆ All those battling cancer—Lisa Langston, Kay Schneider, Tiffany Pleasant, Amy Myers, Don Luna, Jim Kirkland, Wayman King, Donna Shipley, Elaine Hunter (Larry’s sister), Dawn (Chris Lemburg’s sister), Lionel Daugherty, Jana Crisp, Richard Blackburn, Jenny James, Debbie Eslinger, Sharon Fox, Bill Agee, Joy Cutbirth.
- ◆ GHCC: Virginia Hambelton, Bonnie Ebrite, Delphia Holmes. Clifford Lansdown at Hiram Shaddox; Wilbern Uchtman, Brook Haven.



Birthdays		Anniversaries	
9-10	Leon Beard	9-2	Halbert and Vicki Smith
9-22	Rebecca Gosdin	9-24	Tristan and Megan Goodman
9-18	Steve Siebels	9-26	Vernon and Barbara James
9-26	Tiffany Pleasant		

Listen for announcement about the menu for our Wednesday night fellowship meal at 6 p.m.

Date	Event	Details
Sat. Sep. 20, 10:45	Jack Moyer's Service	Here with military honors. Lunch to follow.
Sat. Oct. 18	Halloween Party	Pumpkin carving and party

"Oh come, let's sing to the LORD.  
Let's shout aloud  
to the rock of our salvation.  
Let's come before his presence  
with thanksgiving.  
Let's extol him with songs.  
For the LORD is a great God,  
a great King above all gods."

Psalm 95:1-3 (NHEB)

### August Worship Assignments

#### Welcome & Shepherd's Prayer

9-7 David Stevens  
9-14 Don Luna  
9-21 John Abraham  
9-28 Mark Lane

#### Communion & Closing Prayer

Tinker Langston  
Don Reynolds  
Paul Wade  
John Abraham

**Song Leader: Andrew Eller; Titus Smith**  
**Greeters: John and Melinda Abraham**

## The Family News

September 14, 2025

### Gainesville Church of Christ

PO Box 7, 23550 US Hwy. 160, Gainesville, MO 65655  
www.gainesvillechurchofchrist.org

### A Place to Call Home

We welcome you and are so glad you could worship with us today.

### Schedule of Services

#### Sunday

9:30 a.m. Bible Classes for All Ages

10:30 a.m. Worship Service: **Relationship through Singing**

#### Wednesday

6 p.m. Fellowship Supper

7 p.m. Bible Classes for all ages

#### Sunday Worship Outline

Welcome and Shepherd's Prayer

Kids Singing up front

#626, *Christ, for the World We Sing*

#747, *Sing on, Oh Ye Joyful Pilgrims*; #1012, *Go Tell It on the Mountain*

#922, *Jesus Paid It All*; Communion Service

#258, *The New Song*

Sermon and Invitation

#922; *Home of the Soul*

#859, *When All God's Singers Get Home*; Closing Prayer

Offering baskets are located at the back.

*We are a community of redeemed sinners who are following Jesus Christ, proclaiming the gospel of grace,*

#### Elders

Mark Lane 417-679-4835  
Don Luna 417-712-1945  
David Stevens 417-679-4700  
John Abraham 870-421-5632

#### Deacons

Larry Butler 817-504-1604  
Dana Crisp 417-331-5090  
James Langston 870-315-4355

#### Preacher

Halbert Smith 417-257-3880

**Ministers:** Every Member—Each One of Us